

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**FEBRUARY 1, 2022**

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The meeting of the Public Defender Services Commission was convened at 4:37 p.m. via Zoom.

**Members Present**

Attorney Allison M. Near, **Chair**

Honorable Laura F. Baldini

G. Kenneth Bernhard, Esq.

Honorable William R. Dyson

Aimee Golbert, LCSW

Attorney Ramona Mercado-Espinoza

Honorable Kevin S. Russo

**Others Present**

Christine Perra Rapillo, Chief Public Defender

John R. Day, Deputy Chief Public Defender

Diane M. Fitzpatrick, Director of Human Resources

Benjamin Aponte, Senior Assistant Public Defender

Geographical Area 1 (Stamford)

Jared J. Millbrandt, Assistant Public Defender

Fairfield Judicial District

James J. Pastore, Senior Assistant Public Defender

Fairfield Judicial District

Michael R. Pedevillano, Assistant Public Defender

New Haven Judicial District

Maya K. Sparks, Assistant Public Defender

Geographical Area 1 (Stamford)

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2022 meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, in accordance with the recommendation of the Chief Public Defender, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to grant permanent status to Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, Pamela Nagy, Legal Services Unit, Office of Chief Public Defender, Waterbury, upon the successful completion of her probationary period.

PERMANENT STATUS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, in accordance with the recommendation of the Chief Public Defender, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to reappoint the following attorneys to a new four-year term: Assistant Public Defender, Marc McKay, Middletown Judicial District/Geographical Area 9, expiring on 2/2/2026; Assistant Public Defender, Megan Ocampo, Geographical Area 7 (Meriden), expiring on 2/26/2026; Senior Assistant Public Defender, Victoria Pells, Geographical Area 14 (Hartford), expiring on 2/26/2026; Supervisory Assistant Public Defender, Richard J. Perry, Geographical Area 21 (Norwich), expiring on 2/27/2026; and Public Defender, Damian Tucker, Hartford Judicial District, expiring on 2/27/2026.

ATTORNEY  
REAPPOINTMENTS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to go into Executive Session at 4:37 p.m. The reason for convening in Executive Session was in accordance with Section 1-200(6)(A) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 7:05 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to appoint Greg Dion to the position of IT Systems Manager, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford.

APPOINTMENT OF  
GREG DION

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to ratify the appointment of Kate Kowalyshyn to the position of Systems Specialist, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford.

RATIFICATION OF  
KATE KOWALYSHYN

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to ratify the appointment of Yevgeniy Krayzman to the position of Systems Specialist, Office of Chief Public Defender, Hartford.

RATIFICATION OF  
YEVGENIY KRAYZMAN

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to ratify the appointment of Kayla Handberry to the position of Social Worker I, Torrington Judicial District/Geographical Area 18.

RATIFICATION OF  
KAYLA HANDBERRY

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to ratify the appointment of Crystal A. Hammons to the position of Public Defender Secretary II, New Britain Juvenile Matters.

RATIFICATION OF  
CRYSTAL A. HAMMONS

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to table the appointment of Public Defender, Fairfield Judicial District, until the next meeting.

TABLING OF APPOINTMENT

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by majority of the Commission to table the appointment of Public

TABLING OF APPOINTMENT

Defender, Stamford Judicial District/Geographical Area 1, until the next meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Day  
Deputy Chief Public Defender